

Summer 1997

## re: Columbia

Columbia College Chicago

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## Come to the Cabaret: Celebrate Columbia!

The fourth annual **Celebrate Columbia** gala on May 30 was an exquisite evening of dinner, dancing and entertainment as the Board of Trustees presented **Come to the Cabaret!** in the Moulin Rouge of the Fairmont Hotel. Pictured is blues harmonica virtuoso and faculty member Corky Siegel as he previewed his performance for co-chairs Helena Chapellin Wilson '76 (left) and Averill Leviton and committee members Judy Riskind and Howard Mendelsohn '49. (Not pictured: Ozzie Rodriguez was also a co-chair.) The evening also featured jazz vocalist and faculty member Bobbi Wilsyn. Proceeds benefited the David R. Rubin Trustees' Student Scholarship Fund. More in the next issue...



re: columbia  
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# COLUMBIA'S SCIENCE INSTITUTE PARTNERS WITH CHICAGO PUBLIC SCHOOLS

The Chicago Board of Education has awarded Columbia College's Institute for Science Education and Science Communication (Science Institute) a grant for

over \$1 million to implement *Hands-on, Minds-on, Feet-on Science and Mathematics Seminar: A Road to Success*, an innovative program to upgrade the teaching and assessment methods of the city's public high school science and math teachers.

The grant is being given to the Science Institute to work with over one thousand high school science and math teachers to enhance their science knowledge and methodology beginning this fall. The teachers will attend after-school sessions at the Institute for eight months.

This grant comes on the heels of another \$1 million-plus grant from the National Science Foundation (NSF) awarded to the Science Institute to continue its ongoing community outreach work promoting science literacy in low-income Chicago middle schools. Over the next five years, the grant will support a new program that combines a summer teachers' program with an academic-year program for maximum support.

Dr. Zafra Lerman, head of the Science Institute, has received international acclaim for her creative approach to teaching science to

non-science majors, especially art and communications majors at Columbia, by incorporating science learning with her students' career interests and experience.

The Science Institute submitted a proposal for the *Hands-on, Minds-on, Feet-on* program in response to a Board of Education request for proposals to provide staff development for high school science and math teachers. The request was announced last fall when Chicago Public Schools chief Paul Vallas put 38 of Chicago's public high schools on academic probation.

"We asked a number of high school principals with successful math and science programs to do the first reading of the proposals," said Clifton D. Burgess, executive director of Chicago Public School's Chicago Systemic

Initiative. "We intentionally had not given them background on the submitting institutions before they looked the plans over. A number of them were surprised to see a proposal from Columbia College, knowing the college's reputation as an arts and communications institution. They were impressed with the Science Institute's plan for math and science staff development, and when we later described the Science Institute's experience in community outreach, they felt that it made sense that that the plan was so strong.

"Hands-on, Minds-on, Feet-on clearly addresses the entire staff development process," Burgess added. "The Science Institute's proposal is not just about content and how to run through the program, but it also addresses teacher reviews and, perhaps most importantly, has follow-up support mechanisms in place for the teachers."

The Science Institute's staff development program is designed to provide the participants with all the new developments in teaching and assessment methods to be in line with Standards based Instruction (SBI), a set of national standards based on the National Science Education Standards, which describe what a student should know and be able to do at the end of each grade.

The Chicago Board of Education is putting together its own standards policy based on SBI, with some tailoring for the specific needs of the city's students.

"For a long time we taught science the way we were taught - in an abstract, non-relevant, rote memorization - and this would

turn students away from science," said Dr. Lerman. "Today, with the effort to make science available for all, male and female, privileged and under-privileged, we had to develop different ways and different methodologies both for the teaching and the assessment of the students.

"Science is made relevant to the students' lives, moving from the concrete to the abstract, with a very strong hands-on laboratory component," she added. "At Columbia College, we were pioneers in developing methods of teaching and assessing science that incorporate art, music, dance and drama."

Thirty-one sections of three-hour seminars in biology, chemistry, physics, geology and mathematics will be held during the week in the late afternoon/early evenings at Columbia. Because many Chicago public school teachers are responsible for teaching more than one scientific discipline, multiple offerings of the same courses will be made available.

The Institute for Science Education and Science Communication was established by the college in 1991. Dr. Lerman, who previously had been chair of the science/mathematics department, was named Distinguished Professor of Science and Public Policy and head of the Institute.

Through community outreach efforts, she has brought her creative teaching methods to teachers, parents and students in the Chicago Public Schools and Chicago suburbs. She has also initiated collaborative science education efforts with other colleges and universities across the country and around the world.



Zafra Lerman



# AROUND COLUMBIA

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## RABIGER APPOINTED ACTING CHAIR OF FILM/VIDEO DEPARTMENT

Columbia College Provost and Executive Vice President Bert Gall recently announced the appointment of Michael Rabiger as acting chairperson of the college's Film/Video Department.

Michael has been a member of the college's Film/Video Department faculty since 1972. After studying in England, he engaged in a professional film career, initially as a film editor and ultimately as a film director in the BBC documentary department. Since joining Columbia's faculty, Michael's contributions to the department, the college and his field have been exemplary. He authored "Directing the Documentary" and "Directing: Film Techniques and Aesthetics," both of which are widely used texts in film schools throughout the world. He served as resident film critic of the *New*

*Art Examiner* for two years and wrote the seminal essays on Thomas Hardy, "Tess and Saint Tryphena" and "Hardy's Creative Process and His Emotional Life," both published by MacMillans, London.

He has delivered papers and seminars throughout the world, curated a documentary series of British Cinema Classics for the Museum of Contemporary Art, and directed and produced more than 35 films during his career. Most recently he has been on leave during the 1996-97 academic year while he served as Distinguished Visiting Professor at New York University's Tisch School of the Arts. Fortunately, he rejoined Columbia's faculty in February. Michael's awards and recognitions, as well as those of his students, are too numerous to list.

"Michael has a well-deserved international reputation as a filmmaker, scholar and teacher of extraordinary talent," wrote Bert Gall in an announcement. "I know that he will provide thoughtful, indeed, inspirational leadership for the film/video department as it continues to strive to provide the best possible film education for both our graduate and undergraduate students."

He added, "Michael's experience with the medium, with the college, and with the pedagogy of his discipline uniquely qualifies him to provide leadership for this important college department. He enjoys the absolute respect of President John B. Duff and senior administrators, and I am confident that the department and the entire college community will benefit from Michael's leadership."



A. Fashion Columbia's fourth go 'round was an unprecedented success. Opening night festivities took place in the Hokin Gallery and the Chicago Hilton & Towers on April 22. A patrons' dinner honoring Tiffani Kim as the 1997 Fashion Columbia Designer of Excellence followed the evening's showcases. From left: Fashion Design Program director Dennis Brozynski, Tiffani Kim, and Fashion Management Program director Dianne Erpenbach.

B. New to this year's Fashion Columbia extravaganza was a full-stage runway show. Pictured: Student organizers Kristi Pionti (left), Maria Gimenez, Erica Brandon, and Denise Bejasa present their mentor, Nena Ivon, Saks Fifth Avenue fashion director and chair of Columbia's Fashion Advisory Board (second from right), with gifts of appreciation.



C. Columbia's Center for Book & Paper Arts packed 'em in again for the second annual "Paper Plates" Auction in February. Pictured: Audrey Niffenegger, assistant director of the Center, and John Rush.



D. More fun at the "Paper Plates" Auction: Bill Drendel and Interdisciplinary Arts Department chair Suzanne Cohan-Lange chat with a unidentified friend.

E. Ronne Hartfield, honorary chairperson of Columbia's African Film Festival and college trustee, attended the festival's standing-room-only opening benefit party with her granddaughter Emily Hartfield Harris.



F. Also at the African Film Fest's opening reception: festival founder and director Dr. Alice Stephens was joined by co-sponsor WVON-FM's Deborah Crable.

G. Nearly 1,000 guests attended the April opening reception of the 13th Chicago Latino Film Festival held at The Art Institute of Chicago, co-sponsored by Columbia College and WSNS-TV/Channel 44. Pictured: Provost and executive vice president Bert Gall and Channel 44 news anchor Carla Sanchez.



H. Theater/Music Department chair Sheldon Patinkin (center) congratulated this year's Michael Merritt Scholarship recipients Jennifer Hutchinson (left) and Mary C. Carpenter at the benefit party for the Merritt endowment fund at the Goodman Theatre.



I. Columbia was cooking at Buddy Guy's Legends with the hot sounds of the Faculty Jazz Ensemble and Bobbi Wilsyn and SHE for the "Taste of Columbia" cookbook party. The May 14 event benefitted the college's Residence Center Student Scholarship Fund. Pictured from left: Rose Gordon, assistant to the dean of students, Residence Center director Daniel Betts, assistant director Kristin Fourroux and Symon Ogeto, alumnus.

J. Also seen at Buddy Guy's (from left) Baird Brown and college trustee Sydney Smith Gordon peruse the "Taste of Columbia" cookbook.



## columbia college chicago

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# FICTION WRITING DEPARTMENT

**Columbia alumni who've taken fiction writing courses at the college will often fondly recall a classroom dynamic they might not have appreciated as students. If they took even one class in the department, they'll never forget sitting bumped up against other students in a semi-circle, side-by-side, knee-to-knee,**

with a teacher encouraging them to pour out their hearts and stretch their imaginations in "the telling."

"See the scene...be there...look at it... get closer...describe the colors, the texture...what happens next?..." they'll remember their instructors propelling them ever onward in their quest to tell their stories.

The fiction writing department recently celebrated 30 years of using the Story Workshop® approach to teach hopeful writers how to overcome their inhibitions, find their voices, and, finally, tell their tales. The renowned semi-circle is one of several techniques integral to the method originated by professor emeritus and retired department chairperson John Schultz. The unique method helps writers find their voices through oral telling and recall, reading, writing and word exercises in the classroom semi-circle and in their journals outside of school.

"Fundamental to the Story Workshop approach is the acceptance of the voice and background that the student brings to learning how to write," Schultz says. "These exercises emphasize the relationship between word and voice and help writers develop a depth of perception beyond a superficial level of association. That deeper level is the key to good writing."

Over 500 students register each semester for the department's many Story Workshop, genre and

publishing, and critical reading and writing classes, very likely making the program the largest of its kind in the country. The method is now found at colleges nationwide and has influenced hundreds of writers. It's also been used recently with great success in ten Chicago public schools.

award winning author of "The Book of Ruth"; Ana Castillo, who wrote the short story collection "Loverboys"; and best selling mystery writer and Columbia alumnus Hugh Holton.

The smorgasbord of writers also included Schultz, who authored "No One Was Killed" and "The Chicago Conspiracy Trial," and his wife and partner, playwright and short story writer Betty Shiflett, who helped him develop the Story Workshop approach.

The authors read from their works and talked with students in informal and well-attended sessions throughout Story Week, which was funded in part by a \$2,000 grant from the Illinois Humanities Council. A special feature of the festival was an evening of readings by alumni and current students. Several of the writers also participated in a

author's personal vision, and, by representing his or her culture, have the potential to become a meeting point of people from diverse cultures."

The festival wind-up was a benefit dinner held at Chicago's Palmer House. The gala event raised more than \$60,000 for the newly established John Schultz and Betty Shiflett Story Workshop Scholarship Fund. Schultz and Shiflett each contributed \$15,000 to start the fund.

"Time and time again we've seen talented students come to Columbia who show great promise as writers, but have serious obstacles in terms of making a living while going to school," Shiflett says. "John and I wanted to start the scholarship to help some students dissolve the financial obstacles that stand between them and the realization of their promise.

created by Charles Rudnick, alumnus and senior vice president and creative director of the advertising firm Foote, Cone & Belding.

Shiflett presented drawings and paintings created by students in a class which also used Story Workshop methodology. Charles Johnson captivated the audience with a reading from his novel "Middle Passage."

The fiction writing department has plenty to crow about with the talent of its faculty and alumni, but one of its most proud ongoing achievements is its annual publication of student writing, *Hair Trigger*. With the twentieth edition just released, the magazine has won numerous first-place awards from three separate national organizations. Ten Columbia students completed an almost clean sweep of the top awards for fiction and essay writing in this year's Columbia University Scholastic Press Association competition.

The department has also just successfully launched its new, nationally-distributed science fiction magazine, *Spec-Lit*, and has recently taken *f Magazine*, founded some years back by John Schultz, under its wing, with the next issue scheduled for this summer.

As with many Columbia entities, the fiction writing department elicits strong loyalty from its faculty, students and alumni. There was no shortage of supporters for program testimonials at the benefit dinner honoring Schultz and Shiflett, including one from alumnus Rudnick, which expresses the department's mission:

"The Story Workshop method is unique in its ability to help you see better, hear better, and, as a result, write better. The innovative classroom techniques encourage participation and help you develop your writing skills to their fullest."



**Author Charles Johnson with professors emeritus Betty Shiflett and John Schultz at the April 12 Story Workshop Scholarship Fund benefit named in their honor.**

To commemorate the 30th anniversary of the Story Workshop approach, last April the department planned a week of readings, panels and workshops with distinguished authors from across the country.

The Story Week Festival of Writers featured National Book Award winner Charles Johnson, author of "Middle Passage"; Jane Hamilton,

roundtable discussion co-sponsored by the Chicago Public Library at the end of the week.

"The festival was important because stories help everyone understand, shape, and give meaning to their lives," says Randy Albers, fiction department chairperson. "They give voice to an

Having the fund means a lot to us, that's why we wanted to get it underway. And the response has been very heartwarming."

College provost and executive vice president Bert Gall emceed the gala, which included video clips from Story Workshop classes, and parodic television commercials

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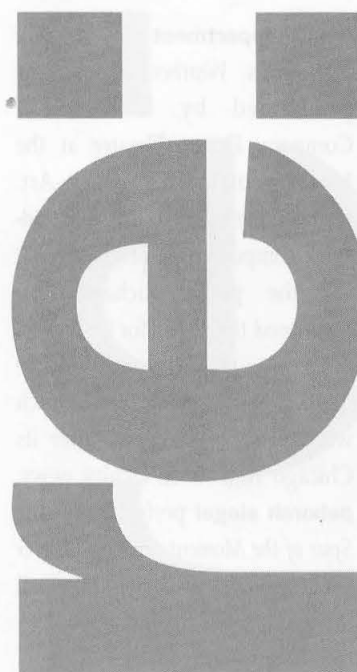
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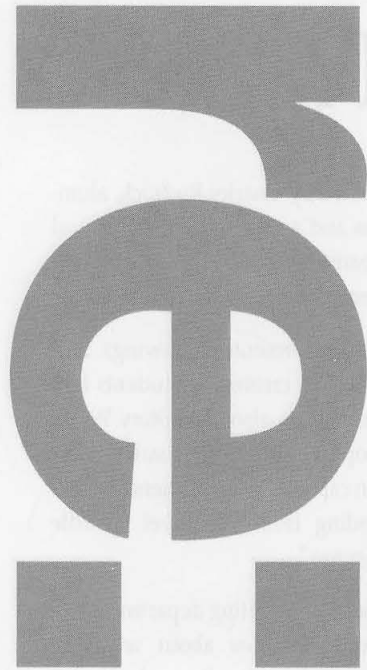
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**art & design department** faculty member **dennis brozynski**, director of the fashion design program, joined the board of directors of the Apparel Industry Board in Chicago. More faculty news: **joyce paul lottermoser** recently received a 1997 Fellowship Grant in Visual Arts from the Illinois Arts Council. **carol mcqueen** received first prize for an oil painting, *Wild Moon Rising*, in the 20th Annual Exhibit at the Beverly Art Center in Chicago. **cory postiglione** curated an exhibition of Chicago artists early this year. The show, *Addendum*, was at the NIU Gallery and was a response to the Museum of Contemporary Art's *Art in Chicago: 1945-1995* exhibit. **hollis sigler** exhibited her work in four solo shows and 11 group shows across the country in 1996. Her Chicago solo exhibition, *Etiquette For Dying*, was held at Printworks Gallery.

**center for black music research** director **samuel a. floyd jr.**'s book "The Power of Black Music: Interpreting Its History from Africa to the United States" is now in paperback and has been named an Outstanding Academic Book for 1995 by *Choice*.

**center for book, paper arts center** assistant director **audrey niffenegger** had artwork displayed in the exhibits *Second Sight: Printmaking in Chicago*, Mary and Leigh Block Gallery, Northwestern University and *Self-Portrait 1996*, Printworks Gallery, Chicago. She received residencies at Ragdale Foundation, an artist's colony in Lake Forest, Illinois in June and December of 1996.

**dance department** chair **shirley mordine**'s *Weather Watch* was performed by Mordine & Company Dance Theater at the Museum of Contemporary Art. Faculty member **richard woodbury** composed the original score for the piece. Richard also composed the music for Goodman Theatre's production of "The Young Man from Atlanta," which will move to Broadway after its Chicago run. More faculty news: **deborah siegel** performed in *The Spur of the Moment Series: Music & Dance Improvisations* at Links Hall in March.

**educational studies department** faculty member **renny golden** recently published a new book, "Disposable Children." More faculty news: **donna jackson** has been lending her expertise to the Teachers for Chicago Program. **peggy mueller** has been named to the board of directors of Cristo Rey, a new alternative school in the Pilsen neighborhood. **susan salidor** recently produced her second recording for children, *Susan Salidor: By*

the Hawthornden International Writers Retreat in Scotland.

**fiction writing department** chairperson **randy albers** headed a panel including professor emeritus **john schultz** and faculty members **claire shulman** and **alexis pride** at the March Conference on College Composition and Communications in Phoenix. The panel was entitled "Not for the Faint of Heart: Writing About Race

## NOTEWORTHY

*Heart*. **marilyn turkovich** traveled to Monterey, California to update the U.S. Defense Department on the college's National Security in Education Program grant.

**english department** acting chairperson **garnett kilberg cohen** read from her fiction this spring at Western Michigan University and the University of Pittsburgh. In November, she gave a presentation on tutoring techniques and strategies at Malcolm X College. She was nominated for the Hemingway/Faulkner Award and a Pushcart Prize. Faculty news: **vittorio carli** had three poems published in the January 1997 edition of *The Anti-Mensch: An Anthology*. He also played in the Showcase Theatre production of "The Foreigner." **peter christiansen** recently served as the dramaturg in Howard Brenton's production of "Bloody Poetry" at the London Centre for Theater Studies. **fred gardaphe** published an essay in *The Ethnic Handbook: A Guide to the Cultures and Traditions of Chicago's Diverse Communities*, a publication of the Illinois Ethnic Coalition. **paul hoover**'s sixth book of poetry, "Viridian," was published by The University of Georgia Press in March. He gave readings from the book at Brown University, Posman's Books in New York City, and the University of Pennsylvania. His poem "California" was selected by editor James Tate for "The Best American Poetry of 1996," his fifth appearance in the annual anthology published by Scribners. **suzanne blum malley**, coordinator of the ESL program, **debra parker** and **christie block** presented "Culture as an Integrative Tool in Intensive ESL Programs" at the 23rd annual state convention of TESOL in April. **jean petrolle** presented her essay "Z is for Zebra, Zed, Zoo and Zygote: Or, Living with Ambiguity" at the Twentieth Century Literature Conference in Louisville, Kentucky in February. **susan sink**'s poem "The Catch" was published in the *Salt Hill Journal* (Winter 1996), and her poems "Healing" and "Praise" appear in the Spring 1997 issue of *The Journal*. **martha modena vertreace**'s book "Second Mourning" is being published by Diehard International Publishers of Scotland. Martha was invited as a Returning Fellow to

and Sex." Faculty news: **andy allegretti**'s story "A Marriage" appeared in the British literary journal *Stand Magazine* this past summer. **jotham burello** edited the recent "Spring Eats 1997" issue of *Sport Literate: Honest Reflections on Life's Leisurely Diversions*. **sally colford** delivered a lecture on the 1812 journal of Lydia Bacon to the Fort Bellfontaine Historical Society in St. Louis. **don degrazia**'s novel "American Skin" will be published by Jonathan Cape. The novel is his completed M.F.A. thesis. **phyllis eisenstein**'s review of Arthur C. Clarke's latest book, "3001," appeared on the front page of the *Chicago Sun-Times* March book section. **molly moynahan**'s short story "The Sobriety Thing" appeared in the Unclassifieds section of the March/April issue of *The North American Review*. The story also appeared in *The Best Texas Writing of 1996*. **alexis pride** has been asked to coordinate the teaching effort at Vernon Park Church of God Saturday Academy in Chicago. **elizabeth yokas** was invited to present her creative non-fiction essay, "Beyond Psychotherapy: Ramsey's Journey through Psychoanalysis," at the Sixth Annual Virginia Woolf Conference at Clemson University in South Carolina.

**film/video** faculty member **michael caplan** recently produced a feature film, "Peoria Babylon," which appeared in the Mardi Gras Film Festival in Sydney, Australia, in February. More faculty news: **dan dinello**'s most recent film, "Shock Asylum," has been screened at the Berlin Underground Film Festival, the Portland International Film Festival, and the Sundance Film Festival in Aspen, Colorado. The film won for "Best Short Film" at the New York Underground Film Festival and the "Team Work Award" at the Stuttgart Film Festival. Dan screened "Shock Asylum & Other Twisted Tales" at Chicago Filmmakers and The Arizona International Film Festival in April. **michael elsey** won a \$5,000 grant for screenwriting from the Illinois Arts Council. The grant will be used to fund production of his script "Vinegar to the Teeth." **joanne koch**'s play "Nesting Dolls" received rave reviews at the API Theatre in Michigan recently.

Joanne's play "Sophie, Totie & Belle" has played in Florida and New Jersey. It will soon move to Los Angeles. **josef steiff** was a guest lecturer and workshop leader on screenwriting of the feature film he produced, "Rhapsody," at the Director's Guild in Los Angeles.

**journalism department** faculty member **scott fosdick** wrote an article on camping with kids which

appeared in the March/April issue of *Family Life* magazine. More faculty news: **norma green** served on a panel titled "The Hollywood Indian: Stereotypes and Visual Representations of Native Americans" at the 1996 convention of the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communication in Anaheim, California. At the same conference, Norma was a panelist discussing "Women's Access to the Media." **ethan michaeli** has been named editor-in-chief of the quarterly *Resident's Journal* of the Chicago Housing Authority. **david smallwood** co-authored "Profiles of Great African Americans," a coffee-table book published by Publications International, Ltd.

**liberal education** faculty member **roseanna mueller** moderated a panel at the American Italian Historical Association's conference. The panel was entitled "A Tavola: Food, Traditions and Community Among Italian Americans." More faculty news: **sharon powell** was recently a speaker on panels for the 25th Annual Meeting of the North American Society for Psychosocial Obstetrics and Gynecology and for the 14th Annual Midwest/Mid-Atlantic Feminist Graduate Student Conference. **antanas van reenan** is writing the entry "Lithuanian Americans" for the forthcoming *Microsoft '97 Encarta Encyclopedia* for Windows and Macintosh with links to the World Wide Web.

**management department** chairperson **j. dennis rich** taught fundraising at the Zentrum fur Kultur und Management in Salzburg, Austria and served as principal teacher for a professional development course at the Agence Rhone-Alpes de Services aux Entreprises-Culturelles in Lyon, France, sponsored by the European Network for Cultural Administration. In April, he returned to Salzburg to lecture in the European Executive Management Program for the Arts and Media. **dianne erpenbach** joined the board of directors of the International Fashion Association. **kimo williams** composed, performed and directed the music for Steppenwolf Theatre's production of poems by Nicky Giovanni. At the Goodman, Kimo was musical director of "Ma Rainey's Black

Bottom." Along with other works, he is composing a piece for West Point's Bicentennial, has been invited to lecture on American music at the Hanoi Conservatory of Music in Viet Nam, and is producing his second big-band CD titled "What Jazz Is and What Jazz Is Not." He has been elected to the board of directors of the Chicago Youth Symphony.

**marketing communication department** faculty member **bill fisher** has signed on as editor of the *North Shore Art League News*.

**photography department** faculty member **helene smith-romer** served as moderator and chairperson of "A Celebration of Chicago Women Artists" at Harold Washington Library in March. Recently, her work was exhibited in shows at 479 Gallery in New York City and at the Museum of Contemporary Photography at Columbia.

**radio/sound department** faculty member **dona mullen** portrayed Yenta the Matchmaker in "Fiddler on the Roof" at Moraine Valley Community College's Fine & Performing Arts Center in March. **howard sandroff** served as a guest composer at the Oberlin Conservatory of Music in February. A concert sponsored by the Office of Student Life featured his music and that of Kimo Williams at the Getz Theater in March. Among the seven compositions performed was the American premiere of Howard's 1996 composition "La Joie" for clarinet trio performed by Chicago Symphony Orchestra clarinetists Larry Combs, John Bruce Yeh and Julie De Roche. **jean lightfoot lee**, Dean of Students, sang Kimo's work "The Testimony of Lucy Smith" with the West End String Quartet conducted by Howard. In April, his 1989 composition "Eulogy" for alto saxophone was published and released by the prestigious French publisher, Editions Henry Lemoine.

**science institute** head **zafra lerman** received the biennial Public Affairs Award from the American Chemical Society's (ACS) Chicago Section in March at a dinner ceremony at the Como Inn. She received the award in recognition of her international



**Paul Walter, president-elect of the ACS, and Zafra Lerman**

activism for human rights and scientific freedom as well as her innovative methods of teaching science.

**theater/music** chairman **sheldon patinkin** directed Columbia's production of Anton Chekov's "Ivanov," and "Your Fault: Songs of the Second City" for WFMT-FM.



# LAUREL STRADFORD '82

**Laurel Stradford, '82, Interdisciplinary Arts M.A., has a long and varied list of achievements, the most recent of which was to develop a cosmetics program for women of color.**

For the past four years her focus has been creating special events and giving seminars in Africa for Revlon. She produced the first black TV commercial for Revlon in Africa in three languages: French, Swahili and English. She highlighted new talent to encourage African youth to develop their abilities. A major show she produced in Nairobi brought together designers, hair stylists and models from eight African countries.

Having previously worked for Revlon in New York and Chicago, Laurel has lived in London for the past two years, "I believe that women are the driving force in the marketplace, especially in Africa, where many own the shops," she says. "Traveling and working for Revlon has been fabulous for my career. I've seen the world."

This world traveler is also a skilled photographer and writer. During the Middle East peace-making negotiations in 1977 and 1978, she photographed President Carter, Egypt's Anwar Sadat, Jordan's King Hussein, Morocco's Hassan II, Menachim Begin of Israel and other national and international dignitaries. Her work was published in international periodicals and her photos exhibited in the White House offices of Zbigniew Brezenski.

After attending Hyde Park High School in Chicago, and unsure of her chosen field, Laurel went to college on and off, finishing in 1972, after which she did a brief stint in law school. This was no accident; her father's sister is well-known Chicago attorney Jewel Lafontante Makarious, who, along with Laurel's mother, was a strong role model. "Between my mom and my Aunt Jewel I grew up knowing that women can do anything," she says. "I got my international interests from them both." Her father, C.F. Stradford, owned several funeral homes in Chicago and was active with the Republican party. He died ten years ago.

Her mother, June, was a national spokesperson for neighborhood revitalization, working with South Shore Bank. She also owned a men's and women's

boutique in Harper Court during the 60s and 70s.

Returning to school, Laurel received a master's degree in 1982 from Columbia College's Interdisciplinary Arts Department. Suzanne Cohan-Lange, InterArts chairperson, recalls that when an evaluator came to interview students about what they had learned, Laurel said, "Are you kidding? I got a master's degree in me!" Suzanne adds, "Laurel has a very strong voice as an artist and as a woman. The kind of person who makes things happen."

Laurel says, "I clearly come from a non-traditional educational background. It wasn't until I got into Columbia's InterArts Program that I was able to weave together all my experiences and talents into one concise braid. The program allowed that growth."

She adds, "Suzanne says I should be an official recruiter for the program because I brought in a lot of students. I feel so strongly about the program; to end my educational career in the IA program was fun and it enhanced who I was. I learned so many things about myself and how to be comfortable in front of people. Now I can speak before 900 people. I used to burst into tears."

Laurel, who had previously taught art, was then hired by the Academy High School for the Performing and Visual Arts in Chicago, where she taught classes and instituted new programs. She is on countless advisory boards, as diverse as the Women's Board of Chicago's Museum of Contemporary Art, the National Theater of Ghana and the North London Business Development Agency.

Suzanne recalls that even the way Laurel got to Revlon was unique: "Before the company had a line of

cosmetics for women of color, Laurel wrote to a high-ranking Revlon official and said, "There are a lot of us out here who don't have pink skin. Why not do something for us?" Someone from the company called and said, "Come to New York and talk to me."

Friendships with such diverse individuals as Muhammad Ali and Mayor David Dinkins are not unusual for Laurel, who set up an exhibit for the American Embassy in Morocco, where she did lectures on Americana. She says Dinkins was extremely supportive of Revlon's efforts in Africa.

"I feel that the world is looking to black people and to Africa for style," she says, noting the dark shades of lipstick and smoky eye makeup that currently are popular. "Shades of brown and beige are blending," she says.

Next on Laurel's agenda is to leave Revlon and return to the United States. "I'm reinventing myself again," she notes. "I've thoroughly enjoyed the work I've done but I've missed having a home base. In the office they call me 'the internationalist.' I come home to dead plants. No one's expecting me. I don't enjoy that feeling."

She talks of her strong spiritual foundation and points out, "For women of our generation it's perfectly acceptable to reinvent ourselves. We don't have to be who we were at 18."

Laurel is writing a book chronicling her life: "All the mini me's, the story of an interracial girl and her place in the world." She adds, "I'm making it a novel although it's nonfiction. I've changed all the names so nobody sues me."



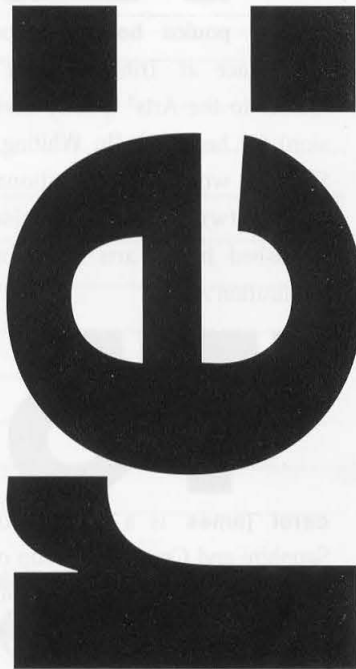
## NOTEWORTHY

Faculty news: **paul amades**, artist-in-residence, composed music for a production of "Uncle Vanya" at Indiana University, South Bend. Paul's acclaimed drama "Points of Arrival" was part of the Winter Rhinoceros Theater Festival, as was a show he directed called "Cuban Grouper." **mary badger** created the lighting designs for the productions of "The Skin of Our Teeth" at Loyola University, "Toys in the Attic" at American Blues Theater, and "Dark of the Moon" at Bailiwick Repertory. **josette m. behrend** performed for the Founder's Day Convocation of East-West University in November and performed in "Under The Picasso," a concert produced by the Sherwood Conservatory of Music in February. **orbett davis** and his quintet presented a lecture/performance tribute

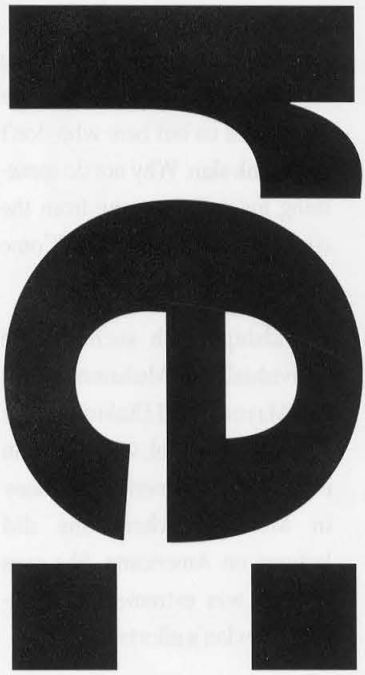
to Martin Luther King, Jr. in January as part of the Student Life & Development Department's African Heritage Celebration. **henry godinez** acted in and directed "Transformations" at the Goodman Studio. **gustavo leone** was chosen by the American Academy of Arts and Letters to receive the Walter Hinrichsen Award, established by the C.F. Peters Corporation for the publishing of new music. **carol loverde**, artist-in-residence, performed as part of the vocal quartet, Music for Women's Voices at Quigly Chapel. In May she performed with Chicago *a Capella*. **tom mula**, artist-in-residence, is wrapping up work on the play and radio versions of "Jacob Marley's Christmas Carol" and is playing Koko in "Hot Mikado" at Drury Lane South through June.

**susan philpot** coached dialects in Steppenwolf Theatre's production of "Time to Burn." **barbara robertson** was recently in the repertory productions of "Tartuffe" and "Philadelphia Story" at the Court Theater. **william russo**, director of the Contemporary American Music Program, conducted the Chicago Jazz Ensemble at Orchestra Hall on the same bill with the Dave Brubeck Quartet. In February, the Ensemble performed its 3rd annual Mardi Gras concert at the University of Chicago's Mandel Hall. In early March, Bill's "An Image of Man," for alto saxophone and string quartet, was performed by the Chicago Strings at the Chicago Historical Society. **greg sarchet**, recently performed the Hoffmeister Double Bass Concerto No. 3 with the Chicago Chamber Orchestra at the Chicago

Cultural Center. **stephanie shaw** is currently writing for and appearing in "Too Much Light Makes the Baby Go Blind" at the Neo-Futurarium, where she will be performing through June. She is also appearing in "Neo Mondo Solo," the Neo-Futurists' series of original one-person pieces. **nana shineflug**'s Chicago Moving Company (CMC) performed *Rappa Nui* as part of a dance series in tribute to Katherine Dunham. CMC then headed to Rockford and performed as part of *Uncommon Lives* a festival honoring women. The group also premiered the first section of Nana's work which deals with elements from the "Egyptian Book of the Dead." **david woolley**, artist-in-residence, performed his show, "Dirk and Guido: The Swordsmen!," with director Benny Reehl in April.







September. Carol recently displayed her work as part of an exhibition at the Museum of Science and Industry in Chicago...

# '77

**thomas conley** is the president/chief operating officer of National Housewares Manufacturers Association. He manages all efforts by the association's U.S. trade show (the eighth largest in top 200 trade shows), statistics, communication, technology programs, and a variety of group buy efforts. Thomas is also the director of the National Association of Manufacturers, the

"Jingle All the Way"...**naomi sheridan** has relocated to San Francisco where she is the executive director of "Leap... imagination in learning"...**tracy williams** has been appointed vice president of the Black Theatre Alliance. Tracy is an actress as well as the facilities manager for the DuSable Museum/Harold Washington Wing Theater...

# '85

**jeryl levin** is the executive director of the Illinois Ethnic Coalition...**elise kermani** is the executive director of Electronic Arts Perfor-

**hawley** will be performing at Fitzgerald's in Berwyn, Illinois, and Barnes and Noble bookstores. She has had three children's books and the book "Double Tongues" published...**janusz kaminski** shot "Lost World" and started production on the Morgan Freeman/Matthew McConaughey film "Amistad" for director Steven Spielberg...**abby schrader**, an assistant professor of history at Franklin & Marshall College, was honored by the Association for Women in Slavic Studies. ...**thad vassmer** won the Illinois/Chicago Screenwriting Contest for his script "Caldron Jivves"...

# '88

**joe mcardle** is the AP Illinois contest winner for the best documentary "Showdown in Chicago: 68 Remembered"...

# '89

**jay r. bonansinga** recently published "The Killer's Game" (Simon & Schuster)...**bob butts** of Streetsboro, Ohio was recently promoted to executive director of the nationally-syndicated radio program "Truth for Life." He and his wife of eight years have three daughters... **cecilia horan**, a recent graduate of The John Marshall Law School, has accepted a position as an associate with the law firm of Hinshaw and Culbertson...**dan london** is program director at Country KSLs-FM and Oldies KYUU in Kansas and a morning personality on Country KSLs. He recently married Jennifer Sweeney... **samira e. robinson** has been appointed



**samira e. robinson**

program development specialist at Catholic Charities as a consultant to the Illinois Department of Health where she works with independent community organizations to raise funds and ensure sustainability. Samira is also a published inspirational writer and poet and a speaker for youth/young adults' self-development and empowerment...

# '90

**mark kotheimer** is a senior systems engineer at Elek-Tek...

# '91

**barbara campbell**, a poetry workshop teacher at Columbia, recently completed her MFA in poetry at Iowa Writers' Workshop. She has a new daughter, Maude Eleanor Rose...**jay alan dewberry**, director of FM 106-JAMZ, was cited by *Source* magazine's as one of the 30 most powerful people in hip-hop music industry...**theodore witcher's** debut film "Love Jones" was co-winner of the Audience Award at the Sundance Film Festival. The film was released by New Line Pictures last March...

# '92

**g.c. guard** is office/communications manager at Creating Pride, Inc., a company that joins businesses to schools which cannot afford art programs. She also participates in Artists of Rogers Park and plans to show her performance piece "Fresh Flowers on Fire" in both Chicago and Cleveland this spring...**john f. kuczaj** is a research manager for the Tribune Broadcasting Company, responsible for analyzing statistics, demographic data and competitive market changes...**keith reid** is communications manager at Water Quality Association...**tony sarabia**, a newscaster at WBEZ, does his own engineering, producing and writing...

# '93

**jeff altschul** is a weekend sports reporter at the ABC affiliate in Springfield, Missouri...**joleen bodo**, a former producer/assistant program director at WJJD/WJMK radio, is now the assistant to the president at Tag Pictures Entertainment in California. Tag finds investors for TV-video and film projects in the U.S. and Europe...**kai el' zabar**, winner of a 1995 Kizzy Award and the Andreana M. Floyd Scholarship, has been elected vice president of Print Chicago Association of Black Journalists. She was named one of the top 500 Who's Who in Chicago Business by *Crain's Chicago Business* and will soon have a novel published. She is editor of *N'DIGO* Magapaper...**ezohn tashani smith** is the Friday night DJ at Cleopatra's in Chicago...**lee uehara** has started *Nichice Journal*, Chicago's only publication about Japanese culture. It includes interviews, travel tips, and articles about culture and language. Lee also attends Loyola School of Law...

# '94

**justin niimi's** musical group Astray Boy has just completed its

## ALUMNI NOTES

# '41

**lorraine gerhardt** is a retired teacher of speech arts. She has been the municipal clerk of the village of Lombard, Illinois since 1978. Lorraine is the mother of five and grandmother of nineteen...

# '51

**peter berkoss**, a retired sound editor, recently won a Lifetime Achievement award for contributions to the Motion Picture Sound Editors. He has an Oscar for "The Hindenburg" and been nominated for several Academy Awards, Emmy Awards and Golden Reel Awards...

# '67

**jefferey starr mararian** is now hosting a show on relationships at WARA Radio in Attleboro/Providence, Rhode Island. Jefferey, the "Relationships Guru," continues to host "The Jefferey Starr" TV show and serve as a justice of the peace...

# '71

**carmen poulos bergman** won first place at Triton College's "Salute to the Arts" (poetry division) for her work "In Whiting." She has won this international award twice and has also published in the arts & fiction publication *Ariel*...

# '75

**carol james** is a member of Sapphire and Crystals, a group of African-American female artists who will exhibit their work this

Chicago Convention and Tourism Board, and the Hong Kong Business Association in the Midwest...

**lisa gottlieb** directed "Cadillac Ranch" starring Christopher Lloyd and Suzy Amis...

# '78

**charles carner**, a writer and director, just finished the remaking of "Vanishing Point." Next up for him is "The Fixer," to air on Showtime...

# '81

**leslie s. bryan** and her husband, photographer Charles Luce, are working with a Bora Indian tribe to assist in collecting, transcribing and translating Bora legends and stories and documenting their contemporary life with photographs... **peter teschner** edited "Howard Stern's Private Parts." He is also editing "Dr. Doolittle" starring Eddie Murphy...

# '83

**mark protosevich** is writing the fifth "Batman" for Warner Bros. and director Joel Schumacher. He also recently completed the script of Warner's "I Am Legend"...

# '84

**eileen hildebrand** was promoted twice this year, first to senior corporate photographer and recently to manager of corporate photography for the Enesco Corporation in Itasca, Illinois. She is responsible for photographing the digital images at Enesco's new web site... **james mulay**, of Chris Columbus' 1492 Productions, was associate producer for 20th Century Fox's

mance Series at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in New York. Her group Trousers will travel to Germany in November... **marylene s. whitehead's** musical drama "This Far By Faith" will



**marylene whitehead**

premiere at ETA Theater. She also co-wrote the Northside Learning Center's official school song "We Love You, NLC"...

# '86

**carol forsythe** recently opened Carol Forsythe Design, her own Chicago-based graphic design business. She hopes to hire interns and employ a graphic design student from Columbia... **bobbie stuart** is designer and president of Whistling Pig, Inc. where she creates "wild wear for the young and young at heart" and publishes a magazine for "light living in heavy times." She also teaches workshops and classes at Chicago Arts Collaborative for Teachers, the Erikson Institute, Urban Gateways and Columbia College...

# '87

**karen erbach's** screenplay "For Hire" wrapped in December starring Joe Mantegna and Rob Lowe...**mauro fiore** wrapped production in December on the Tracey Ullman HBO comedy series "Tracey Takes On..." He was the director of photography for the season's 15 episodes...**mary**



fourth CD, "The Everyman's 4th Dimension," on Ajax Records. Justin, who is a member in two other bands, also works as a free-lance audio engineer and has started his own record label, Moron/Robot Recordings. The label's first release, Anglophobe's "Dept. of Stairs," is a compilation of Justin's solo recordings...

# '96

**kevin morrow** performed in the Ivanhoe Theater production of "African Cinderella" and the cable TV show "Easy Drive." Kevin stars with Lawrence Fishburne, Tim Roth and Vanessa Williams as the character Waldo in the upcoming movie "Hoodlums." The film is scheduled to be released in August...**cecilia rubalcava's** essay "Where Are All The People?" is featured in the *Ethnic Handbook*, produced by the Illinois Ethnic Coalition...

# '97

**ryan healy** is an intern with the Illinois Ethnic Coalition, helping to coordinate the premiere issue of the Coalition's newsletter...  
**connie sowa wachala's** story on arts in the schools appeared as a cover story in the *Chicago Tribune's*

Education Today section. She also wrote the cover story for the March/April issue of *Arts Indiana Magazine*.

## Corrections:

In the last issue of "re:" we misspelled Tim Oman's ('86) name.

### Deceased

Elizabeth Dunster Bean  
Paul Snyder  
Robert J. Hawkins  
Wolfram Dochtermann, '59  
Russell H. Lerner, '79

## Get out your calendars!

Columbia alums and friends are invited on an African adventure June 4 - 14, 1998, organized by Kenyan native Symon Ogeto, an alumnus and current graduate student. The reasonably-priced trip will include exploring leading attractions such as Masai Mara reserve, Lake Nakuru and the coastal city of Mombasa.

To make this opportunity even more attractive to Columbia alumni, a portion of all proceeds from travel arrangements will benefit the Alumni Scholarship Fund.

For details on the African adventure safari call 312/913-9566 or 773/363-9500.

## Greetings to all my fellow alumni!

Having been a member of the board for just one year, I am honored to be your new association president. I am looking forward to getting to know many of you while working together to maintain alumni networking capabilities and raising scholarship funds for current students.

The other executive officers of the board are now Bill Cellini ('94, Film), vice president; Samira Robinson ('89, Marketing Communications), treasurer; and the assistant director of alumni relations, Eric Mixon ('91, Journalism), will officially take over as secretary, a post he has filled for a long time with no recognition. We will try to introduce these and other alumni board members to you in future issues.

Some of you will be surprised that Michael Jackson ('83, Arts Management) is no longer serving as president of our association. I will be relying on Michael's experience, particularly during the first few months of my term of office. His past volunteerism has been invaluable.

The present board is very strong, but if we are to achieve our goals we will need to augment board membership. I welcome your suggestions in this regard. We are endeavoring to build board membership with representation from the various departments at Columbia. Michael Cullen ('73, Theater), noted producer of such hits as "Pump Boys and Dinettes," "Driving Miss Daisy," and "Getting My Act Together and Putting It on the Road," has already agreed to work with us.

Because Columbia has expanded rapidly in recent years, the Alumni Association has much work ahead to keep up with the scholarship needs of current students. On a positive note, this growing student body is constantly enlarging the alumni network base, which is an advantage to all of us in the ever fluid commercial environment. Your ideas and input are welcomed. I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Gloria Lehr ('84, Television)  
President of Columbia College Alumni Association



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e-mail \_\_\_\_\_  
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| <input type="checkbox"/> Aiko Fellowship                                    | <input type="checkbox"/> The Dance Center   | <input type="checkbox"/> AI Parker Radio/Sound Scholarship                             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> The Jane Ann Legnard Alexandroff Scholarship Fund  | <input type="checkbox"/> Fashion Columbia Scholarship Fund                          | <input type="checkbox"/> Presidential Scholarship                                      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Alumni Book Awards Program                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Fischetti Scholarship Fund                                 | <input type="checkbox"/> President's Club  |
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| <input type="checkbox"/> The Mary A. Blood Founder's Fellowship Fund        | <input type="checkbox"/> Hillary R. Kalish Scholarship Fund                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Chuck Suber Scholarship Fund                                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Center for Black Music Research                    | <input type="checkbox"/> High School Summer Institute Fund                          | <input type="checkbox"/> Victor Skrebneski Scholarship in Fashion Fund                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Charitable Trusts                                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Michael Merritt Endowment Fund                             | <input type="checkbox"/> AI Weisman Scholarship Fund                                   |
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| <input type="checkbox"/> Hermann Conaway Fund                               |   | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____   |

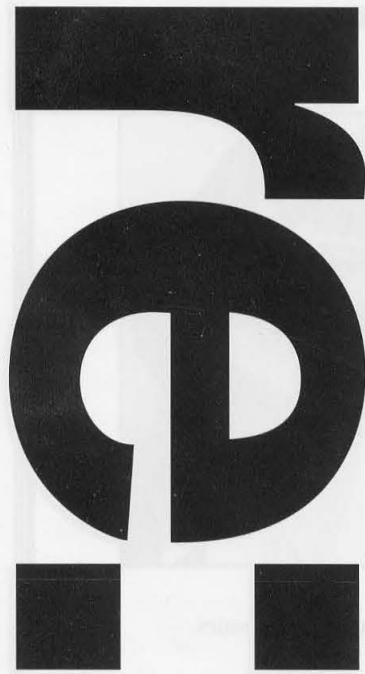
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what's news with you - personal and/or professional?

please remember columbia college chicago in your will







## 1997 Alumni Achievement Awards Dinner

It was anchors away again on Saturday, June 7 for Columbia's fourth annual Alumni Achievement Awards Dinner aboard the Odyssey II cruise ship at Navy Pier, which concluded a weekend of alumni activities. And the alumni award winners are:

**Norman Pellegrini**, '50, Lifetime Achievement. For more than 40 years, he served as the program director for WFMT-FM radio and was generally responsible for the station's character and international fame.

**Charles Carner**, '78, Outstanding Contribution to a Field. He has an extensive list of writing and directing credits which began with "Assassins," starring Joe Mantegna, named Best Student Film at the Chicago International Film Festival. His current project for Showtime is "The Fixer." Charles is president of the West Coast Chapter of the Alumni Association.

**Brigid Murphy**, '87 Outstanding Contribution to a Field. She recently returned to Columbia to pursue a graduate degree in film. She is the creator of "Milly's Orchid Show," an Ed Sullivan-style, live variety show now in its ninth year.

**Jim Williams**, '87, Outstanding Contribution to a Field. He became Mayor Richard M. Daley's press secretary in 1992 and host of television's "Chicago Works." Prior to working for the Daley administration, he was a political

reporter for WGN-TV and a writer and producer for WGN Radio. He has received awards from the Associated Press, United Press International and the Chicago Association of Black Journalists.

**Enid Long**, '79, Outstanding Contribution to Columbia College. A member of Columbia's board of trustees and President's Club, she has worked internationally to promote health care politics. She has managed U.S. Embassies in Luxembourg, Senegal and The Gambia and was a co-founder of CRIS Radio for the Blind in Chicago and the American Refugee Committee.

**Howard Mendelsohn**, '49, Outstanding Contribution to Columbia College. A member of Columbia's board of trustees, he founded Chicago Communications Day, a fundraising luncheon for Columbia students, in the early 70s. As the president of his own public relations firm, he has represented several major companies and celebrities.

**Sydney Smith Gordon**, Honorary Alumnus. She is Columbia's longest serving trustee, having joined the board in 1970, and has been an active member on many of the college's fundraising committees. Presently a communications consultant, she is a veteran New York City radio and television broadcaster. She serves on the boards of several Chicago arts organizations.

**Congratulations to all the winners!**

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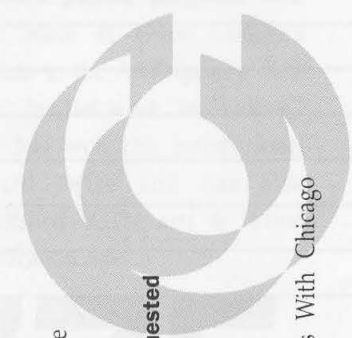
Donna Ciesla



Illinois Governor Jim Edgar (center) and his wife Brenda recently hosted a dinner at the Governor's mansion for members of the Federation of Independent Illinois Colleges and Universities, an organization which Columbia president Dr. John B. Duff (right) chairs.

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### what's inside

- Science Institute Works With Chicago Public Schools
- The John Schultz/Betty Shiflett Fiction Writing Scholarship Fund
- News from the New Alumni Association President
- Alumna Laurel Stradford '82

## Departmental Changes in Name Only

The structure of Columbia's Graduate School has changed, but only in official terms. Several former programs have attained stand-alone departmental status, and the women who lead them have been elevated from directors to chairpersons.

**Suzanne Cohan-Lange** has been promoted from director to chairperson of the Interdisciplinary Arts Department. The InterArts Program was the first graduate program to be offered at Columbia. It has been under Suzanne's direction since its inception in 1976 as part of the Chicago Consortium of Colleges and Universities and since 1981 at Columbia. The program currently has 50 students enrolled, and has conferred 161 master's degrees.

A new degree program, an MFA in Book and Paper Arts, has just been approved, following the success of the MA program introduced in 1993.

**Jane Ganet-Sigel** has been promoted from director to chairperson of the Dance Movement Therapy Department, which was initiated as a program under her direction in 1982. In the years since that time, the program has conferred 43 master's degrees, and has been fully approved by the National American Dance Therapy Association. There are 50 students currently enrolled in the program.

**Ava Belisle Chatterjee** has been promoted from director to chairperson of the Educational Studies Department, initiated as a program in 1992. The program started under the leadership of Marilyn Turkovich, who was instrumental in developing the proposal for the

State Board of Education. Ava took the reins two years later and has overseen the program as it has grown, with 158 students currently enrolled and 67 master's degrees conferred.

"A title on the door will not change the commitment and dedication of these three women as they continue to teach and direct their programs," wrote Vice President/Dean of the Graduate School Dr. Lya Dym Rosenblum in an announcement on the changes. "This is an opportunity, however, to recognize and honor their work."

In the undergraduate realm, **Lynn Pena** has been promoted to chairperson of the Interpreter Training Department, which was initiated as a program under the auspices of the English Department in 1993 (see story in last issue). In four short years, Lynn has recruited an outstanding faculty and has developed a program which is well-respected locally and nationally, and which has far exceeded the college's reasonably ambitious enrollment goals. Lynn has also been instrumental in developing articulation agreements with area community colleges. The department currently has over 275 students enrolled in its classes.

"Lynn's dedication to her profession, to her faculty, to her students and to the college is exemplary," wrote Provost and Executive Vice President Bert Gall in college wide announcement. "Her new status and that of the department's are appropriate acknowledgments of her outstanding leadership."